

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-03 DODE-00

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S E C R E T STATE 121705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WG REPORT ON AIR MANPOWER

REF: A. AC/276-WP(75)9(REVISED), B. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

REF. A (POUCHED), C. USNATO 2705

1. WE CAN ACCEPT REF. A AS AMENDED BY REF. B WITH THE

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FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS.

2. WE BELIEVE FOOTNOTE (2) TO PARA 2B (WITH OR WITHOUT THE AMENDMENT PROPOSED IN REF. B) SHOULD BE DROPPED. ONLY ONE OF THE THREE SOVIET TANK ARMIES CURRENTLY IN NGA HAS FOUR TANK AND ONE MOTORIZED RIFLE DIVISIONS (THE 1ST GUARDS TANK ARMY). BUT THE AGREED ALLIED APPROACH DESCRIBES THE MAKE-UP OF THE USSR TANK ARMY TO BE REDUCED AS FIVE DIVISIONS, 68,000 MEN, AND 1,700 TANKS. WE SEE NO REASON TO ADD FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS. (FYI: THOUGH THE 2ND GUARDS TANK ARMY AND 3RD SHOCK ARMY EACH HAVE LESS THAN 68,000 MEN AND 1,700 TANKS, WE WOULD NOT WANT, AT THIS POINT, TO EXCLUDE WITHDRAWAL OF ANY OF THE THREE GSFG TANK ARMIES IF SUFFICIENT ADDITIONAL UNITS WERE WITHDRAWN TO SATISFY THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. END FYI)

3. WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSED FRG FOOTNOTE (REFTEL C) TO PARA 11B OF REF. A EXPRESSES A NATIONAL POLICY POSITION; IT THEREFORE IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR A WG REPORT AND SHOULD BE DELETED. POINT B IS A PARTICULAR SOURCE OF CONCERN SINCE IT APPEARS TO CHALLENGE A US JUDGMENT ABOUT US AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS. FYI: IF THE FRG CONTINUES TO INSIST ON INCLUSION OF THE PROPOSED FOOTNOTE, IF THE FOOTNOTE IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE OTHER ALLIES, AND IF US APPROVAL OF INCLUSION WOULD RESULT IN WG APPROVAL OF THE PAPER AS AMENDED, WE WILL ACCEPT THE FRG FOOTNOTE AS AN FRG POSITION ON THIS POINT. END FYI.

4. PARA 16(C) SHOULD TERMINATE AT THE COLON. TEXT THAT FOLLOWS IS SPECULATIVE AND BEGINS TO INVOLVE NON-CIRCUMVENTION, AN ISSUE WE WOULD PREFER TO DISCUSS SEPARATELY.

5. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PARA 16(D) IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE SENSE OF THE AFFECTED SENTENCE. WE PREFER RETENTION OF "MITIGATE."

6. "COULD" SHOULD REPLACE "WOULD" IN SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 26 TO BE MORE CONSISTENT WITH RELATED STATEMENTS IN SECTION I. INGERSOLL

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